

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 R

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P 230132Z OCT 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 262831

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE SIMONS MESSAGE FOR GATI, HER OFFICE CLOSED FOR

LONG WEEKEND AND WE WON'T HAVE AN ANSWER BEFORE TUESDAY.

2. RE MOSCOW 16571. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THIS
VERY TIMELY REPORT OF REACTION BY SOVIET MFA OFFICIAL
TO RIYADH AGREEMENT.

3. HAS DAO OR MCNAMARA TRIED TO GET APPOINTMENT YET
AT INSTITUTE OF MILITARY HISTORY. WE BELIEVE COL.
RYBKIN, FORMERLY OF LENIN POLITICAL-MILITARY ACADEMY,
AND REPORTED ARCH-"HAWK" IS NOW WORKING THERE. SOMEONE
SHOULD TRY TO GET IN THERE.

4. PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES 1977-79 AND APPENDED CONDITIONS
WERE CONCLUDED AND NOTES EXCHANGED THIS AFTERNOON.
HECTIC RUN TO THE WIRE MIGHT HAVE HAD BETTER RESULTS,
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BUT IT'S NOW WATER OVER THE DAM. RESOLUTION OF EXHIBITS

QUESTION WAS RETURN TO CURRENT LANGUAGE (9 CITIES)
WITH ACCEPTANCE OF A PRECISE SOVIET ORAL STATEMENT

THAT THEY AGREE TO DISCUSS INCREASING THE NUMBER
DURING THE PERIOD. RAY BENSON WILL BE RETURNING WITH
COPIES OF TEXTS ON SUNDAY. WE HAVE ALSO KEPT NEAR
VERBATIM RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS AND WILL SEND SAME WHEN
TYPED OUT.

5. OCT. 22 DEPARTMENT AND INS CO MET ABOUT THE
CRITERIA FOR TCP. INS CO ULTIMATELY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT
INS ROME'S INITIATIVE WAS UNAUTHORIZED, UNINFORMED, AND
ILL ADVISED. HOWEVER, INS CO WANTS A GENERAL REVIEW,
LARGELY OUT OF CONCERN THAT THE ROMANIAN TCP PROGRAM
IS GOING TO MUSHROOM INTO ANOTHER SOVIET PROGRAM, AND
THERE WILL NOT BE ENOUGH CONDITIONAL ENTRY NUMBERS.
EMBASSY BUCHAREST'S BUREAUCRATIC PROBLEM SEEMS POTENTIAL-
LY WORSE THAN OURS, AND YOU SHOULD INFO BUCHAREST
ON ALL CABLES ABOUT TCP PROCEDURES. THE DEPARTMENT IS
SENDING OUT A CABLE TO BOTH MOSCOW AND BUCHAREST, THIS
TIME CLEARED BY INS CO, REITERATING THAT POSTS SHOULD
CONTINUE AS BEFORE PENDING A REVIEW BY THE DEPARTMENT
AND INS CO OF THE TCP PROGRAMS.

6. RE MOSCOW 16538, PARA 1, OC/T DID TRADE OF STATE
229893 WHICH YOU REPORTED MISSING IN TRANSMISSION. THE
MESSAGE WAS SENT SEPT. 17 AT 170617Z. THE EMBASSY
REPORTED THE MESSAGE MISSING IN TRANSMISSION, THEREFORE
OC/T RETRNASMITTED THE MESSAGE AND THE EMBASSY RECEIVED
IT ON SEPTEMBER 18 AT 181318Z. THIS IS ANOTHER
INDICATION THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME INTERNAL DISTRI-
BUTION PROBLEM FOR VISA MESSAGES. SUGGEST YOU REVIEW
PROCEDURES FOR DISSEMINATION OF VISA CABLES.

7. REF MOSCOW 16674 PARA 2, WE ARE CLEARING A SHORT
CABLE WHICH APPROVES YOUR PROPOSED CONSULAR REVIEW
SECOND ROUND STRATEGY AND MAKES A FEW MINOR SUGGESTIONS
AND QUALIFICATIONS. WE SHOULD GET THAT CABLE OFF TO YOU
SOON. WE ARE NOT RPT NOT, HOWEVER, READY TO RESUME
TALKING ABOUT THE IMMUNITY QUESTION, AND WE ARE NOT SURE
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AT THIS POINT WHEN WE WILL BE READY.

8. REF PARA MOSCOW 16602, WE DO NOT PLAN TO LET THE
SOVIETS GO BEYOND TWO TASS CORRESPONDENTS IN SAN
FRANCISCO AT THIS TIME. TWO TASS CORRESPONDENTS WERE
PROVIDED FOR IN THE TASS-UPI DEAL WHICH WE ACCEPTED.
UPI COULD SEND TWO TO LENINGRAD BUT HAS NO INTEREST IN
DOING SO AT THIS TIME.

9. ON OCTOBER 19 WE TELEPHONED ROBERT MICHAEL OF LONGWOOD TRAVEL AGENCY REGARDING THE BOWLES BROTHERS' TRAVEL TO USSR FOR RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA TREATMENT. MICHAEL SAID THAT THE BROTHERS' DEPARTURE FOR THE USSR HAD BEEN DELAYED AT THE REQUEST OF THE MOH UNTIL OCTOBER 26 (FIRST AVAILABLE DATE NOW AT HELMHOLZ INSTITUTE) AND THAT THEY WOULD BE ARRIVING IN MOSCOW ON SWISSAIR FLIGHT 490 ON OCTOBER 26 AT 7 P.M. WE PASSED ON TO MICHAEL WORD OF ALLEN GREENBERG'S DISCUSSIONS AT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MOSCOW 16281), REPORTING TO HIM THE MINISTRY'S EVIDENT INTEREST IN OBTAINING LOWER ROOM RATES AND SUGGESTING THAT HE (MICHAEL) INFORM INTOURIST HERE OF THE MINISTRY'S INTEREST. MICHAEL SAID HE WOULD DO SO AND ADDED THAT HE HAS ALREADY BOOKED THE FIRST THREE NIGHTS OF THE BOWLES' STAY IN MOSCOW WITH INTOURIST AT REGULAR TOURIST RATES. KISSINGER

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